



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

Raised Bill No. 174

LCO No. 873

* SB00174CE_ENV031710 *

Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:
(CE)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STANDARDS OF WATER QUALITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22a-426 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall adopt, and
4 may thereafter amend, standards of water quality applicable to the
5 various waters of the state or portions thereof [as provided in this
6 section] in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. Such
7 standards shall be consistent with the federal Water Pollution Control
8 Act and shall be for the purpose of qualifying the state and its
9 municipalities for available federal grants and for the purpose of
10 providing clear and objective public policy statements of a general
11 program to improve the water resources of the state; provided no
12 standard of water quality adopted shall plan for, encourage or permit
13 any wastes to be discharged into any of the waters of the state without
14 having first received the treatment available and necessary for the
15 elimination of pollution. Such standards of quality shall: (1) Apply to
16 interstate waters or portions thereof within the state; (2) apply to such
17 other waters within the state as the commissioner may determine is

18 necessary; (3) protect the public health and welfare and promote the
 19 economic development of the state; (4) preserve and enhance the
 20 quality of state waters for present and prospective future use for public
 21 water supplies, propagation of fish and aquatic life and wildlife,
 22 recreational purposes and agricultural, industrial and other legitimate
 23 uses; (5) be consistent with health standards as established by the
 24 Department of Public Health. Any documentation that forms the basis
 25 for the standards sought to be adopted, amended or repealed shall be
 26 available to the public not later than sixty days prior to the date of the
 27 public notice required under section 4-168.

28 [(b) Prior to adopting, amending or repealing standards of water
 29 quality, the commissioner shall conduct a public hearing. Notice of
 30 such hearing specifying the waters for which standards are sought to
 31 be adopted, amended or repealed and the time, date and place of such
 32 hearing shall be published as provided in said subdivision (1) of
 33 section 22a-6 and also at least twice during the thirty-day period
 34 preceding the date of the hearing in a newspaper having a general
 35 circulation in the area affected and shall be given by certified mail to
 36 the chief executive officer of each municipality in such area. Prior to
 37 the hearing the commissioner shall make available to any interested
 38 person any information he has as to the water which is the subject of
 39 the hearing and the standards under consideration, and shall afford to
 40 any interested person the opportunity to submit to him any written
 41 material. At the hearing, any person shall have the right to make a
 42 written or oral presentation. A full transcript or recording of each
 43 hearing shall be made and kept available in the files of the Department
 44 of Environmental Protection.]

45 [(c)] (b) The commissioner shall establish the effective date of the
 46 adoption, amendment or repeal of standards of water quality, subject
 47 to the provisions of subdivision (1) of section 22a-6. Notice of such
 48 adoption, amendment or repeal shall be published in the Connecticut
 49 Law Journal upon acceptance thereof by the federal government.

50 [(d)] (c) The commissioner shall monitor the quality of the subject

51 waters to demonstrate the results of his program to abate pollution.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	22a-426
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CE

Joint Favorable C/R

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